Venture School—definition of.

519. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Adverting to paragraph 73 of the Report on the Educational Survey, will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) what is a 'venture school';

(b) which of the schools now existing in the State may be brought under this category?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(a) A 'Venture School' is one which is started and run primarily for financial gain or some purpose other than the educational needs of the neighbourhood.

(b) No statistics were collected.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to mention at least a few?

Mr. I. N. Menon—This is a question which concerns the individuality of the schools and managers and I do not think it is proper to place the list of such schools, the names of which I already possess.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Will it not be useful in the interests of public good if such names are be brought before the notice of the public?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—It may serve some public good. But to catalogue them and place these before this House would not serve any useful purpose.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—How many such schools exist?

Mr. I. N. Menon—There was no necessity to make that inquiry. In any case I cannot place it before the House.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Are they still being recognised and aided?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Some of them still are.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Is there any reason to aid venture schools?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The question only refers to aid. They were aided and it would be rather hard to withdraw the aid straightaway before giving them time.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Has it been brought to the notice of the managers that the Government have realised that they are venture schools?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—Certainly.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Is there any correspondence with the department showing these?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I came across these schools in the actual course of investigation and I thought it was not necessary to send a written letter to them. I have told them that those schools are venture schools.

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Mr. George Chakyamuri.—Was it discovered by the Director himself ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—By all the inspecting officers and by myself.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—It is said here 'some purpose other than the educational needs'. What purpose?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I once gave a list of motives for starting schools. I hope the Hon'ble Member does not want me to repeat all of them here.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Where is the delicacy in at least giving the approximate number of venture schools?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—If Government thought that it served any useful purpose they could have certainly made the list. But there is no necessity.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Is it not necessary to know what percentage of schools are venture schools?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I have made certain recommendations to the Government that certain schools are unnecessary for many reasons and in those schools some are venture schools. I cannot single out because it may involve a certain amount of slur. I do not want to locate them.

Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Is it not necessary for this House to know the number?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—I want notice.

Mrs. Swaris.—Are there any industrial schools among them?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—No industrial school.

Government Protection of Teachers in private service—effect of.

520. Mr. Joseph Pettah.—Adverting to paragraph 77 of the Report on Educational Survey, will the Government be pleased

(a) to give some idea of 'the paternal protection which Government have till now been according to teachers in private service ; and

(b) to explain how such protection " has only tended to lower the morale and ruin the self-reliance of these teachers themselves " as remarked by the Director in the Survey Report?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—The teachers in private service are allowed most of the concessions admissible in the case of Government servants according to the C. S. R. and the Standing Orders. They have security of their tenure of office and of the amount of pay they receive ; and also some helping concerns such as the Provident Fund system.

(b) The point can be cleared only after the report is considered by the Government in detail for which a committee is proposed to be appointed.

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